

**Fees:** (Effective: October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011)

*IRS tax exempt facilities only (501(C)(3))  
Letter of determination required*

# How to Acquire a Permit (license) from Hood River County Public Health:

## Types of Food Service Permits:

1. Restaurant License
2. Mobile Food Unit License
3. Temporary Restaurant License
4. Benevolent Meal Site License\*
5. Organization Camp License\*

Depending on how and where you prepare your food, and who you are serving the food to, will affect what kind of license you must acquire to operate. Some facilities may require multiple licenses to cover all of their activities.

For application packets: Contact the Hood River County Health Department – Environmental Health Office for more information at: 541-387-6885.

<http://www.co.hood-river.or.us>

Temporary Restaurant & Benevolent Meal Site license, administrative fee = \$60.00. → *If the application is submitted at least 2 weeks prior to the event, the fee will be waived \$0 (free).*

Annual Restaurant license, Mobile Food Unit license & Organizational Camp license fee = \$0.00.

## Some Exempt Food Functions:

*No license required for service to the public  
These exemptions are mandated by Oregon State Code and Statute.*

An establishment that offers only prepackaged food and beverages that are not potentially hazardous (no refrigeration required) and/or commercially prepackaged ice cream and frozen desserts.

Food served to an organization's membership only. Two examples are: a parishioners gathering following a religious service or a funeral where the general public is not invited.

There are a few other exemptions, so call our office and let us help you find the best options for your event.



## Hood River County Public Health Environmental Health Office

1109 June Street  
Hood River, OR 97031  
Phone (541) 387-6885  
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# Food Service for Non-Profit Groups

## HOOD RIVER COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH



Last Updated: 2014

\* Special conditions. For more information contact our office.

# Do I Need A Permit From The Health Department?

## Answer the following questions:

1. Are you serving food or beverages to the public?
2. Is the food or beverage served in an open container?
3. Are you serving food in the form of a snack, meal, or beverage?

If you answered **YES** to all of the above questions then you **DO** need a permit from the Health Department.

If you are unsure if your food service or bake sale requires a license to operate, please contact our office. We are happy to answer your questions and provide consultations (387-6885).

## Temporary Restaurant License

Are you only serving food infrequently at special events? If you answered **YES**, then this may be the license for you. Temporary restaurant licenses may only be issued in conjunction with an event. Applications are available in our office. Each event requires separate license and fee.

## Restaurant License

Are you serving food to the public from a central kitchen on a regular or periodic basis? If you answered **YES**, then this may be the license for you.

By acquiring a restaurant license you will be able to serve regular meals to the general public from an approved kitchen without having to operate in conjunction with an event. Licensed annually.

To qualify for a license, formal plans must be submitted prior to beginning any food service.



## Mobile Food Unit License

Do you want to periodically serve the same types of foods at a variety of locations? Do you want to be able to travel throughout the State and participate in events outside Hood River County? If you answered **YES**, then this may be the license for you.

To qualify for a license, formal plans must be submitted prior to beginning any food service. Mobile Food Units must be mounted on wheels and be conveyable down a street or sidewalk. Licensed annually.

## Definitions:

**Danger Zone:** The temperature at which dangerous bacteria can grow in food: 41°F – 135°F.

**Event:** a limited duration occurrence, such as a holiday observance, concert, periodic marked (such as farmers markets, craft fairs, and bazaars), celebration and/or distinct sporting contest.

**Food:** means a raw, cooked, or processed edible substance, ice, beverage, or ingredient used or intended for use or for sale in whole or in part for human consumption, or chewing gum.

**Mobile Food Unit:** means any vehicle that is self-propelled or that can be pulled or pushed down a sidewalk, street, highway or waterway, on which food is prepared, processed, served or converted.

**Potentially Hazardous Food:** means a food that requires ‘Temperature Control’ because it is in a form capable of supporting the rapid and progressive growth of bacteria.

**Private:** not open to the public.

**Public:** open to all persons.

**Temperature Control:** A food handling technique used to keep food out of the ‘Danger Zone’. While under temperature control, food shall be kept: 41°F or colder, or 135°F or hotter.